

REMARKS

As noted above, in response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Group I, namely, Claims 70-89 and 102, without traverse.

Applicant has also amended Claim 70 to recite "at least one solar radiation concentrator having an optical focal point and having an aperture of between about 0.5 m and about 2 meters, adapted for focusing incident solar radiation." This amendment was made so as to remove the limitation "with a single reflection to a single focal point." Support for this amendment may be found in the application, for example, at page 12, line 31, which states that "Preferably, concentrator 12 is dish-like, having a focal point. Alternatively, other geometries, for example polygonal,...may be used. Alternatively still, concentrator 12 may be trough-like."

It is known in the art that, in the case where a trough-like, or parabolic, concentrator is used, solar radiation may be focused on a "focal axis." This is discussed, for example, in "Development of Optical Concentrator Systems for Directly Solar Pumped Laser Systems," Yasser Abdel-Fattah Abdel-Hadi, page 71 (see http://opus.kobv.de/tuberlin/volltexte/2006/1197/pdf/abdelhadi_yasser.pdf).

Additionally, Claim 89 has been amended to recite "The system according to claim 70, wherein said at least one solar radiation concentrator and said at least one power conversion unit comprise a plurality of solar radiation concentrators and a plurality of power conversion units configured to be installed on a single said solar tracking apparatus." It is submitted that no new matter has been added by this amendment, and that support therefor may be found in the application, for example, at page 19, line 2.

Further, Claim 102 has been amended and new Claims 103-107 have been added and Applicants respectfully submit that these claims belong to Group I, as they depend on claims in that Group. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and that support for the amendment to Claim 102 and for new Claims 103-107 may be found in the application, for example, at page 12, line 31.

It is submitted that Claims (70-88) and (90 and 92-107) are generic, as they recite "at least one solar radiation concentrator" and "one or more solar collectors," respectively.

Additionally in the Office Action, the Examiner has stated that the application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention, and that these species lack unity, under PCT Rule 13.1. The Examiner has stated further that Figures 7, 8, and 9 recite different species because of the single, double, and plural structures.

On consideration of this objection, Applicant has elected Fig. 8 to which the claims are to be restricted if no generic claim is found to be allowable. It should be noted that Claims 70-89 and 102-107 are readable on the elected species.

Thus, Claims 70-89 and 102-107 are to be examined.

An action on the merits is respectfully awaited.

Applicants reserve the right to file, at a later date, divisional applications claiming priority from claims of the present application which are directed to the non-elected Group.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

- Petition for Extension (One Months)
- Additional Claims Transmittal Fee